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LEGISLATIVE HISTORY

Public Law 85-314
H. R. 7900

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Index and summary of H. R. 7900

- June 4, 1957 Rep. Ford introduced H. R. 7900 which was referred to the House Committee on Agriculture. Print of bill as introduced.
- Aug. 16, 1957 House committee reported H. R. 7900 with amendment. H. Report No. 1187. Print of bill and report.
- Aug. 21, 1957 House passed H. R. 7900 as reported.
- Aug. 22, 1957 H. R. 7900 was referred to the Senate Agriculture and Forestry Committee. Print of bill as referred.
- Aug. 28, 1957 Senate committee reported H. R. 7900 without amendment. Senate Report No. 1155. Print of bill and report.
- Aug. 30, 1957 Senate passed H. R. 7900 without amendment.
- Sep. 7, 1957 Approved: Public Law 85-314.

DIGEST OF PUBLIC LAW 85-314

SALE OF LAND IN OTTAWA COUNTY, MICHIGAN. Authorizes the Secretary of Agriculture to sell, to the highest responsible bidder but at not less than the fair market price as determined by him, certain land in Ottawa County, Michigan, which was acquired pursuant to title III of the Bankhead-Jones Farm Tenant Act and is not needed for public purposes.

85TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 7900

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JUNE 4, 1957

Mr. FORD introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Agriculture

A BILL

To permit the Secretary of Agriculture to sell to individuals land in Ottawa County, Michigan, which was acquired pursuant to the provisions of title III of the Bankhead-Jones Farm Tenant Act.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*
3 That (a) the Secretary of Agriculture may sell to individuals
4 such real property in Ottawa County, Michigan, as (1) was
5 acquired by him pursuant to the provisions of section 32 of
6 the Bankhead-Jones Farm Tenant Act (7 U. S. C. 1011),
7 (2) is being administered by him, and (3) he determines
8 is not needed for public purposes and is suitable for private
9 ownership.

1 (b) The Secretary of Agriculture shall sell real property
2 which is sold pursuant to the provisions of subsection (a)
3 at a price which he determines to be the market value sub-
4 ject to such terms and conditions as he may prescribe. Such
5 terms and conditions shall be prescribed by the Secretary of
6 Agriculture in light of guidance and recommendations re-
7 ceived by him in consultation with the Ottawa County Board
8 of Supervisors and the West Ottawa Soil Conservation Dis-
9 trict of Ottawa County, Michigan.

A BILL

To permit the Secretary of Agriculture to sell to individuals land in Ottawa County, Michigan, which was acquired pursuant to the provisions of title III of the Bankhead-Jones Farm Tenant Act.

By Mr. Ford

JUNE 4, 1957

Referred to the Committee on Agriculture

Aug. 16, 1957

"The House amendment struck out all after the enacting clause of the Senate bill and substituted the language of H.R. 8456 as passed by the House on August 2, 1957. The bill reported herewith is a substitute for the House amendment which has been agreed upon by the conferees. It differs in only two substantial respects from the House amendment."

PRODUCTION OF WHEAT ON EXCESS ACREAGE

"The House amendment provided that no wheat produced from any acreage in excess of acreage allotments should be considered in determining the supply of wheat for purposes of future acreage allotments and marketing quotas or in determining the level of price support. The committee amendment provides that wheat grown on acreage in excess of acreage allotments (including that produced in noncommercial wheat States where there are no farm allotments) will be counted for such purposes except for the estimated quantity of wheat which is produced on farms taking advantage of the feed exemption provided by this bill."

COUNTING OF EXCESS ACREAGE FOR HISTORY PURPOSES

"The House amendment provided that no acreage planted in excess of acreage allotments would be counted for history purposes in establishing future State, county, and farm acreage allotments. Because of the House action striking section 3 out of the bill, a change was necessary in this provision in order to leave the noncommercial wheat States in the same position they now occupy. The committee amendment leaves the law with respect to the noncommercial wheat area unchanged and provides that acreage planted to wheat in that area will continue to be counted as history for future acreage allotment purposes.

"Both these amendments were recommended by the Department of Agriculture in its reports to the chairman of the House and Senate conferees on the bill."

12. POULTRY INSPECTION. Agreed to, and sent to the Senate, the conference report on S. 1747, to provide for the compulsory inspection by this Department of poultry and poultry products. pp. 13738-39
13. FORESTRY. The Agriculture Committee reported with amendment H.R. 7900, to authorize the Secretary to sell certain Title III Bankhead-Jones lands in Mich. to private individuals (H. Rept. 1187). p. 13757
14. INFORMATION. The Judiciary Committee ordered reported H.J.Res. 313, designating the week of Nov. 22-28, 1957, as National Farm-City Week. p. D792
Rep. Hoffman criticized the withholding of Government information from Congress and the public. pp. 13746-50
15. FEDERAL-STATE RELATIONSHIPS. A subcommittee of the Judiciary Committee ordered reported to the full committee without recommendation H.R. 3, to establish rules of interpretation governing questions of the effect of acts of Congress on State laws. p. D792
16. PERSONNEL. The Post Office and Civil Service Committee ordered reported with amendment H.R. 607, to increase the annuities payable to retired employees from the civil service retirement fund. p. D793

17. MILITARY CONSTRUCTION. The conferees agreed to file a conference report on H.R. 8240, to authorize certain construction at military installations, including the use of foreign currencies acquired under Public Law 480 for the construction of military family housing units in foreign countries. p. D793
18. UNEMPLOYMENT COMPENSATION. Passed without amendment H.R. 8888, to extend the unemployment compensation program to employees of non-wholly owned Federal instrumentalities of the U.S. pp. 13737-38
19. WATER UTILIZATION. Both Houses received from the Bear River Compact Commission a report relative to negotiations between Ida., Utah, and Wyo. with respect to the waters of the Bear River and its tributaries. pp. 13645, 13757
20. INSECT CONTROL. The Judiciary Committee reported with amendment on Aug. 14, S. 1805, to provide relief for persons and firms for the direct expenses incurred by them for fumigation of premises in the control and eradication of the khapra beetle (H. Rept. 1140). p. 13494
21. LEGISLATIVE PROGRAM. Rep. Albert announced the following legislative program: Mon., Aug. 19, the Consent Calendar, to be followed by consideration of these bills under suspension of the rules: H.R. 9020, transfer of Packers and Stockyards work to FTC, H.R. 376, to prohibit trading in onion futures, H.R. 5497, recreationsl and fish and wildlife development under the Watershed Protection and Flood Prevention Act, S. 939, the conference report relative to Government transportation services at free or reduced rates, H.R. 5384, relative to preserving competitive through transportation rates for rail carriers; Tues., the AEC appropriation bill; Wed., a resolution for consideration of H.R. 6127, the civil rights bill, if reported by the Rules Committee by that time. pp. 13740, 13744
22. ADJOURNED until Mon., Aug. 19. p. 13757

ITEMS IN APPENDIX

23. PERSONNEL. Sen. Mansfield inserted W. P. McCahill's, Secretary, President's Committee on Employment of the Physically Handicapped, recent address, "Employment in Professions and Industries." pp. A6735-6
24. INDUSTRIAL USES. Rep. Avery inserted a statement describing the organization of the Commission on Increased Industrial Use of Agricultural Products, and pointing out certain recommendations concerned with the financing and administration of the program. pp. A6737-40
25. DROUGHT RELIEF. Extension of remarks of Sen. Yarborough inserting an article, "Drought Again Rears Ugly Head in Southwest Areas," and stating that "these signs underscore the urgency for helping the stricken farmers in the stricken areas." p. A6741
Rep. May inserted an editorial, "The Drought, The Surplus and Foreign Assistance." p. A6753
26. HOG PRICES. Extension of remarks of Rep. Jensen stating that "farmers hold the key to future hog prices," and inserting a table showing pig crop and average farm price at point of first sale from 1940 to 1957. p. A6742
Extension of remarks of Rep. Laird stating that "agricultural research has shown hog producers how to meet consumer demand for lean pork and to cut the fat surplus at the same time." pp. A6769-70

SALE OF LAND IN OTTAWA COUNTY, MICH.

AUGUST 16, 1957.—Committed to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union and ordered to be printed

Mr. COOLEY, from the Committee on Agriculture, submitted the following

R E P O R T

[To accompany H. R. 7900]

The Committee on Agriculture, to whom was referred the bill (H. R. 7900) to permit the Secretary of Agriculture to sell to individuals land in Ottawa County, Mich., which was acquired pursuant to the provisions of title III of the Bankhead-Jones Farm Tenant Act, having considered the same, report favorably thereon with amendment and recommend that the bill do pass.

The amendment is as follows:

Page 2, beginning with line 3, strike out all the rest of subsection (b) and insert:

to the highest responsible bidder but at not less than the fair market price thereof as determined by him and in such parcels and subject to such terms and conditions as he may prescribe.

STATEMENT

The purpose of this bill is to authorize the Secretary to sell to the highest responsible bidder, but at not less than the fair market price, that portion of approximately 6,200 acres of land in Ottawa County, Mich., now being administered by the Forest Service under title III of the Bankhead-Jones Farm Tenant Act which he considers suitable for private ownerships.

The land involved was part of the "submarginal land retirement program" carried on during the 1930's. The area lies close to the eastern shore of Lake Michigan in what was once a good wheat farming region, but the lands involved were covered with blowing sand from the lake shore and had been or were about to be abandoned when they were purchased by the Government for a very nominal amount.

In recent years, the lands have been under the supervision of the West Ottawa Soil Conservation District by virtue of a lease with that district and certain soil conservation and restorative measures—chiefly the planting of grass and trees—have been carried out.

Testimony at the hearing indicated that the land is now needed for rural residential purposes because of the expansion of population in the nearby cities of Grand Haven, Holland, and Grand Rapids. The lands still have relatively little agricultural value except for the growth of grass and trees, and it is anticipated that the Secretary of Agriculture, when he offers any of such lands for sale, will include in the conveyance such restriction as he can against use of the lands in such a way as to again subject them to the deteriorating forces which made them submarginal.

It is to be noted that there is nothing mandatory about the bill. The Secretary is authorized to sell such land "as he determines is not needed for public purposes and is suitable for private ownership."

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT

The committee amendment amends the language of subsection (b) to require that the lands which are sold be disposed of to the highest responsible bidder and in such parcels and subject to such terms as the Secretary may prescribe. The former language of the subsection would apparently have authorized a negotiated or private sale by the Secretary. The amendment also strikes out the sentence which would have required the Secretary to consult with the Ottawa County Board of Supervisors and the West Ottawa Soil Conservation District with respect to the terms and conditions under which the land is to be disposed of and then, presumably, to follow their recommendations in establishing such terms and conditions.

In striking out the language requiring such consultation, the committee does so not because it does not anticipate that the Secretary should and will consult with these agencies before disposing of the land, but because it seemed unwise to the committee to require such consultation as a condition precedent to any action by the Secretary.

DEPARTMENTAL POSITION

The committee has not received a formal report from the Department of Agriculture on this bill and a spokesman for the Department appearing at the hearing stated that he was not in a position at the moment to state the Department's policy position on the bill. He pointed out, however, that the Department of Agriculture has in both the 83d and the 84th Congresses recommended and proposed the enactment of legislation establishing an overall policy for disposal of submarginal lands which would include authority for the Secretary to sell to private individuals those lands which were not needed for public purposes and which he deemed suitable for return to private ownership.

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85TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 7900

[Report No. 1187]

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JUNE 4, 1957

Mr. FORD introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Agriculture

AUGUST 16, 1957

Reported with an amendment, committed to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union, and ordered to be printed

[Omit the part struck through and insert the part printed in italic]

A BILL

To permit the Secretary of Agriculture to sell to individuals land in Ottawa County, Michigan, which was acquired pursuant to the provisions of title III of the Bankhead-Jones Farm Tenant Act.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*
3 That (a) the Secretary of Agriculture may sell to individuals
4 such real property in Ottawa County, Michigan, as (1) was
5 acquired by him pursuant to the provisions of section 32 of
6 the Bankhead-Jones Farm Tenant Act (7 U. S. C. 1011),
7 (2) is being administered by him, and (3) he determines
8 is not needed for public purposes and is suitable for private
9 ownership.

1 (b) The Secretary of Agriculture shall sell real property
2 which is sold pursuant to the provisions of subsection (a)
3 at a price which he determines to be the market value sub-
4 ject to such terms and conditions as he may prescribe. Such
5 terms and conditions shall be prescribed by the Secretary of
6 Agriculture in light of guidance and recommendations re-
7 ceived by him in consultation with the Ottawa County Board
8 of Supervisors and the West Ottawa Soil Conservation Dis-
9 trict of Ottawa County, Michigan *to the highest responsible*
10 *bidder but at not less than the fair market price thereof as*
11 *determined by him and in such parcels and subject to such*
12 *terms and conditions as he may prescribe.*

85TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 7900

[Report No. 1187]

A BILL

To permit the Secretary of Agriculture to sell to individuals land in Ottawa County, Michigan, which was acquired pursuant to the provisions of title III of the Bankhead-Jones Farm Tenant Act.

By Mr. FORD

JUNE 4, 1957

Referred to the Committee on Agriculture

AUGUST 16, 1957

Reported with an amendment, committed to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union, and ordered to be printed

Digest of CONGRESSIONAL PROCEEDINGS

OF INTEREST TO THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

OFFICE OF BUDGET AND FINANCE
(For Department Staff Only)

Issued August 22, 1957
For actions of August 21, 1957
85th-1st, No. 152

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HIGHLIGHTS: House agreed to conference report on supplemental appropriation bill. House Commerce subcommittee ordered reported bill to transfer certain work under Packers and Stockyards Act to FTC. Senate committee ordered reported water resources conservation resolution. Sen. Morton inserted, and Sen. Humphrey criticized, REA loan portion of Secretary's press conference.

HOUSE

1. SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATION BILL FOR 1958. Agreed to, and sent to the Senate, the conference report on this bill, H.R. 9131. (pp. 14145-57) As agreed to the bill provides \$4 million for ARS for eradication of screwworms and fireants (instead of \$5 million as proposed by the Senate), \$1,300,000 for poultry inspection (instead of \$3.5 million as proposed by the Senate), \$20 million for ACPS for emergency conservation measures (instead of \$25 million as proposed by the Senate), not to exceed \$50,000 of the funds appropriated for forest land management in 1958 for the acquisition of sites for buildings outside the national forests, and \$75,000 (instead of \$150,000 as proposed by the Senate) for farm housing research by the land grant colleges under the Housing Act of 1957. It includes \$100,000 (instead of \$150,000 as proposed by the Senate) for the Advisory Committee on Weather Control to complete its final report by Dec. 31, 1957, \$15,000,000 for the President's disaster relief fund, \$13,317,000 for TVA, and various amounts for claims. It provides that appropriations, authorizations, and authority provided in the bill shall be available from July 1, 1957, for the purposes provided, and all obligations incurred between June 30, 1957, and the date of enactment of the bill in anticipation of the appropriations, authorizations, and authority are so authorized.

2. MONOPOLIES; MEATPACKERS. A subcommittee of the Interstate and Foreign Commerce Committee ordered reported with amendment H.R. 5282, to transfer certain work under the Packers and Stockyards Act to the Federal Trade Commission. p. D813
3. ORGANIZATION. Conferees were appointed on S. 1791, to extend the Reorganization Act of 1949 to apply to reorganization plans submitted before June 1, 1959 (p. 14145). Senate conferees were appointed Aug. 19.
4. FORESTRY. Passed as reported H.R. 7900, to authorize the Secretary to sell certain Title III Bankhead-Jones lands in Mich. to private individuals. p. 14145
5. ATOMIC ENERGY. Passed with amendment, H.R. 9379, making appropriations for the AEC for 1958. (pp. 14158-67) The bill had been reported by the Appropriations Committee earlier (H. Rept. 1217) (p. 14183).
6. HOUSING. Agreed to the Senate amendment to the House amendment to the Senate amendment to H.R. 4602, to encourage new residential construction for veterans' housing in rural areas and small cities and towns by raising the maximum amount in which direct loans may be made from \$10,000 to \$13,500. (pp. 14171-72) This bill will now be sent to the President.
The Ways and Means Committee reported without amendment H.R. 9057, to amend the Internal Revenue Code so as to provide for amortization deductions with respect to housing facilities for farm workers (H. Rept. 1215). p. 14183
7. PERSONNEL. The Post Office and Civil Service Committee reported without amendment H.Con.Res. 175, proposing a code of ethics for the Government service (H. Rept. 1208), and with amendment H.R. 607, to increase the annuities payable to retired employees from the civil service retirement fund (H. Rept. 1211). p. 14182
8. RICE; FISHERIES. The Merchant Marine and Fisheries Committee reported with amendment S. 1552, to authorize Interior to establish a program for the purpose of carrying on research and experimentation to develop methods for the commercial production of fish on flooded rice acreage in rotation with rice field crops (H. Rept. 1212). p. 14182
9. RECLAMATION. The Interior and Insular Affairs Committee reported with amendment S. 1996, to approve the contract negotiated with the Casper-Alcova Irrigation District, and to provide that the excess-land provisions of the reclamation laws shall not apply to the lands of the Kendrick project, Wyo. (H. Rept. 1214). p. 14183
10. ELECTRIFICATION. Rep. Bow defended the rapid amortization program for the electric power industry, stating that recent attacks on the program were "based on distortion and falsehood." pp. 14173-78
11. FOREIGN AID. Rep. Smith, Wisc., urged that recent cuts in foreign aid program appropriations be sustained, and stated that "the truth is that the American people are not sold on the program." p. 14178
12. LEGISLATIVE PROGRAM. Rep. Albert announced that the Private Calendar will be called today, Aug. 22. pp. 14167-68

SEC. 3. If the conditions described in section 2 are not met within 6 months of the date of enactment of this act, the Secretary of the Navy may dispose of the U. S. S. *Enterprise* in accordance with law.

The Senate joint resolution was ordered to be read a third time, was read the third time, and passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

CONVEYANCE OF FISSIONABLE MATERIAL

Mr. BROOKS of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to take from the Speaker's desk the bill (H. R. 8005) to provide for the conveyance of an interest of the United States in and to fissionable materials in a tract of land in the county of Cook, and State of Illinois, with Senate amendments thereto and concur in the Senate amendments. The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The Clerk read the Senate amendments, as follows:

Page 2, after line 5, insert:

"SEC. 2. The Administrator of General Services is authorized and directed to convey by quitclaim deed to the city of Kearney, a municipal corporation of the county of Buffalo and State of Nebraska, all of the right, title, and interest of the United States in and to uranium, thorium, and other materials determined pursuant to section 5 (b) (1) of the Atomic Energy Act of 1946 (60 Stat. 761) to be peculiarly essential to the production of fissionable material, contained in the tract of land in the county of Buffalo, State of Nebraska, which was conveyed by quitclaim deed from the United States of America to the city of Kearney, recorded on June 15, 1950, at book 151, page 47, in the deed records of Buffalo County, Nebr. (said deed having been issued by Deputy Regional Director, Liquidation Service, General Services Administration, Office of Real Property Disposal, on behalf of the Administrator of General Services in the name of United States of America)."

Amend the title so as to read: "An act to provide for the conveyance of interests of the United States in and to fissionable materials in certain tracts of land situated in Cook County, Ill., and in Buffalo County, Nebr."

The SPEAKER. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Texas?

Mr. MARTIN. Mr. Speaker, reserving the right to object, will the gentleman explain the amendments?

Mr. BROOKS of Texas. I would be delighted to. The amendment was put on the bill by the other body and provides that certain fissionable material reservations be reserved to the city of Kearney. The same matter was taken up in the original bill and, as the gentleman will recall, I talked with him yesterday about it and with the senior Republican member on the subcommittee that handled it, the gentleman from Connecticut [Mr. MAY].

Mr. MARTIN. Mr. Speaker, I withdraw my reservation of objection.

The SPEAKER. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Texas?

There was no objection.

The Senate amendments were concurred in.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

AMENDING REORGANIZATION ACT OF 1949

Mr. BROOKS of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to take from the Speaker's table the bill (S. 1791) to further amend the Reorganization Act of 1949, as amended, so that such act will apply to reorganization plans transmitted to the Congress at any time before June 1, 1959, with amendments of the House thereto, insist on the amendment of the House and agree to the conference requested by the Senate.

The SPEAKER. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Texas? [After a pause.] The Chair hears none and appoints the following conferees: Messrs. DAWSON of Illinois, CHUDOFF, BROOKS of Texas, MOSS, HARDEN, BROWN of Ohio, and MICHEL.

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA STADIUM

Mr. McMILLAN. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to take from the Speaker's table the bill (H. R. 1937) to authorize the construction, maintenance, and operation by the Armory Board of the District of Columbia of a stadium in the District of Columbia, and for other purposes, with amendments of the Senate thereto, further disagree to the Senate amendments and ask for a further conference with the Senate.

The SPEAKER. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from North Carolina? [After a pause.] The Chair hears none and appoints the following conferees: Messrs. McMILLAN, HARRIS, TEAGUE of Texas, SIMPSON of Illinois, and O'HARA of Minnesota.

PERMITTING SALE OF LAND IN OTTAWA COUNTY, MICH.

Mr. FORD. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent for the present consideration of the bill (H. R. 7900) to permit the Secretary of Agriculture to sell to individuals, land in Ottawa County, Mich., which was acquired pursuant to the provisions of title III of the Bankhead-Jones Farm Tenant Act.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Michigan?

There was no objection.

The Clerk read the bill, as follows:

Be it enacted, etc., That (a) the Secretary of Agriculture may sell to individuals such real property in Ottawa County, Mich., as (1) was acquired by him pursuant to the provisions of section 32 of the Bankhead-Jones Farm Tenant Act (7 U. S. C. 1011), (2) is being administered by him, and (3) he determines is not needed for public purposes and is suitable for private ownership.

(b) The Secretary of Agriculture shall sell real property which is sold pursuant to the provisions of subsection (a) at a price which he determines to be the market value subject to such terms and conditions as he may prescribe. Such terms and conditions shall be prescribed by the Secretary of Agriculture in light of guidance and recommendations received by him in consultation with the Ottawa County Board of Supervisors and the West Ottawa Soil Conservation District of Ottawa County, Mich.

With the following committee amendment:

Page 2, beginning with line 3, strike out all the rest of subsection (b) and insert "to the highest responsible bidder but at not less than the fair market price thereof as determined by him and in such parcels and subject to such terms and conditions as he may prescribe."

The committee amendment was agreed to.

The bill was ordered to be engrossed and read a third time, was read the third time, and passed, and a motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

SUBCOMMITTEE OF COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES

Mr. HÉBERT. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the Subcommittee of the Committee on Armed Services may have permission to sit during general debate today.

The SPEAKER. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Louisiana?

There was no objection.

SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATION BILL, 1958

The SPEAKER. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Missouri [Mr. CANNON].

Mr. CANNON. Mr. Speaker, I call up the conference report on the bill (H. R. 9131) making supplemental appropriations for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1958, and for other purposes, and I ask unanimous consent that the statement on the part of the managers be read in lieu of the report.

The SPEAKER. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Missouri?

There was no objection.

The Clerk read the statement.

(For conference report and statement, see proceedings of the House August 20, 1957.)

Mr. CANNON. Mr. Speaker, I think there is nothing controversial in this conference report. There are, in addition to the report, 28 amendments in technical disagreement. That is, under the rules the conferees are required to bring them back to be voted upon separately, and they will come up immediately following adoption of the conference report.

I might say, by way of summary, Mr. Speaker, that the estimates which came to us from the Bureau of the Budget aggregated \$1,860,148,967.

We made a material reduction in those estimates in the committee, and the bill as it passed the House carried only \$1,581,590,587. In the other body estimates aggregated even more, reaching \$1,972,767,827. As passed by the Senate the bill aggregated \$1,824,001,547. The conference agreed to \$1,734,011,947.

As compared with the Senate estimates the conference was \$238,755,880 below. As compared with the House bill it was \$152,421,360 above, and compared with the Senate bill it was \$89,989,600 below.

Mr. GROSS. Mr. Speaker, will the gentleman yield?

Mr. CANNON. I yield to the gentleman from Iowa.

Mr. GROSS. Will the gentleman again state, for the benefit of the gentleman from Iowa and the Members of the House, the difference between the figures of the House bill and the Senate bill and whether or not the figure arrived at in the conference is higher or lower than the bill which the House originally approved?

Mr. CANNON. The bill as passed by the House was much lower than the estimates. The House bill carried \$1,581,590,587. The other body, however, had a greater amount of estimates, \$1,972,767,827, and passed it at \$1,824,001,547, which was still less than the estimate but more than the House bill. I trust that answers the gentleman's question.

Mr. Speaker, I yield 5 minutes to the gentleman from New York [Mr. TABER].

Mr. TABER. Mr. Speaker, it did not take very long, only 48 hours, for the other body to run up this bill from \$1,581,000,000 to \$1,824,000,000.

The bill which comes from the conference is \$89,989,600 below the Senate bill. It is above the House bill by \$152 million, approximately.

I have no objection to this conference report. There are some pretty big items in it, but it is the best that could be done under the circumstances.

Mr. GROSS. Mr. Speaker, will the gentleman yield in order that I may make a suggestion to the chairman of the Committee on Appropriations?

Mr. TABER. I yield to the gentleman from Iowa.

Mr. GROSS. If I may have the attention of the chairman of the Appropriations Committee, Mr. CANNON, I would like to suggest that in the next session of Congress all conference reports—on which we get all too little information—come to the House with a table showing as did the conference report on H. R. 7665, the Defense Department appropriation bill, the changes that are made. That ought to be comparatively easy to provide.

I suggest to the gentleman that next year the Appropriations Committee try to accompany every report with this kind of table so that all Members of the House can readily see the changes that have been made in the bill as to total amounts and the various purposes for which appropriated.

Mr. CANNON. As the gentleman is aware, these conference reports are customarily in stereotyped form. It has never been the practice to show those figures in the conference report for the reason that they are in the bill itself.

Mr. TABER. There are two items in disagreement, one with reference to the Burke Air port and one with reference to a channel in the Columbia River running into The Dalles. I shall oppose them as they are reached, but as far as the conference report itself is concerned, I am not opposed to that.

Mr. CANNON. Mr. Speaker, I move the previous question on the conference report.

The previous question was ordered.

The SPEAKER. The question is on the conference report.

The conference report was agreed to.

The SPEAKER. The Clerk will report the first amendment in disagreement.

Mr. CANNON. Mr. Speaker, of the 28 amendments remaining, I shall ask unanimous consent that we consider en bloc those that are purely formal and upon which there is no difference of opinion. I ask unanimous consent that the following amendments be considered en bloc: Nos. 8, 15, 34, 43, 45, 47, 49, 50, 58, 64, 72, and 75.

The SPEAKER. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Missouri?

There was no objection.

Mr. ROONEY. Mr. Speaker, I urge adoption of the pending motion of the distinguished gentleman from Missouri [Mr. CANNON] particularly since the House would thereby recede and concur in amendment in disagreement No. 58 which concerns the sum \$3,525,000 for the purchase of Israeli pounds for educational, scientific, and cultural activities in the State of Israel. The other body added to the House appropriation a proviso "that this amount shall be used for purchase of foreign currencies from the special account for the informational media guaranty program, at rates of exchange determined by the Treasury Department, but in no event at a higher rate per unit than the free world market value of the currency purchased, and the amounts of any such purchases shall be covered into miscellaneous receipts of the Treasury."

I have been advised this morning that the Department of State and the Treasury Department feel that with this language inserted by the other body including the words "but in no event at a higher rate per unit than the free world market value of the currency purchased" they will be able to effectively carry out the program as originally presented to the House Committee on Appropriations. The pending motion should be adopted.

The SPEAKER. The Clerk will report the Senate amendments.

Senate amendment No. 8: On page 3, after line 17, insert the following:

"BUREAU OF PUBLIC ROADS

"Public lands highways

"Liquidation of contract authorization

"For payment of obligations incurred pursuant to the contract authorization granted by section 6 of the Federal-Aid Highway Act of 1954 (68 Stat. 73) and section 106 of the Federal-Aid Highway Act of 1956 (70 Stat. 376), to remain available until expended, \$1,533,000, which sum is composed of \$225,000, the balance of the amount authorized to be appropriated for the fiscal year 1957, and \$1,308,000, a part of the amount authorized to be appropriated for the fiscal year 1958."

Senate amendment No. 15: Page 6, after line 2, insert the following:

"REVOLVING FUND

"For additional capital for the revolving fund authorized by the Small Business Act of 1953, as amended, to be available without fiscal year limitations, \$100,000,000."

Senate amendment No. 34: On page 13 after line 7 insert the following:

"Sec. 314. The General Counsel of the Department of Defense shall be paid at the rate prescribed by Reorganization Plan No. 6 approved June 30, 1953 (67 Stat. 638)."

Senate amendment No. 43: Page 19, after line 14, insert the following:

"BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

"Construction

"Not to exceed \$1,423 of the funds available to the Bureau of Land Management from definite annual appropriations shall be available for reimbursing the city of Monticello, Utah, for the cost of improvements to streets and appurtenant facilities adjoining property under the jurisdiction of the Bureau of Land Management."

Senate amendment No. 45: On page 20, line 9, after word "basis" insert a colon and the following: "Provided, That the Secretary of the Interior is authorized to expend income received from leases on lands on the Colorado River Indian Reservation (southern and northern reserves) for the benefit of the Colorado River Indian Tribes and their members during the current fiscal year, or until beneficial ownership of the lands has been determined if such determination is made during the current fiscal year."

Senate amendment No. 47: On page 21, after line 14, insert the following:

"DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

"Forest Service

"Forest land management: During the current fiscal year not to exceed \$50,000 of the funds appropriated under this heading shall be available for the acquisition of sites authorized by the act of March 3, 1925, as amended (16 U. S. C. 555), without regard to any other limitation on the amount available for this purpose."

Senate amendment No. 49: On page 22, after line 4, insert the following:

"COMMUNICABLE DISEASES

"Communicable diseases: For an additional amount for 'Communicable diseases', for emergency measures necessary for the further prevention and control of a threatened or actual epidemic of influenza, \$800,000: *Provided*, That \$2,000,000 may be transferred from funds appropriated for disaster relief pursuant to the act of September 30, 1950, chapter 1125, section 8 (64 Stat. 1109), for the purposes specified in this paragraph, including the purchase, without regard to section 3709 of the Revised Statutes, and distribution of supplies and materials for prevention and control and grants to States of money and medical supplies and materials, upon a finding by the Secretary of Health, Education, and Welfare, upon the recommendation of the Surgeon General and the National Advisory Health Council, that a threatened or actual epidemic of influenza constitutes an actual or potential health emergency of national significance."

Senate amendment No. 50: On page 22, after line 21, insert the following:

"HOSPITALS AND MEDICAL CARE

"The limitation under this head contained in the Third Supplemental Appropriation Act, 1957, for payments for medical care of dependents and retired personnel under the Dependents' Medical Care Act is increased by such sum or sums as may be necessary for the purpose."

Senate amendment No. 58: On page 25, line 9, after "\$3,525,000" insert a colon and the following: "Provided, That this amount shall be used for purchase of foreign currencies from the special account for the informational mediums guaranty program, at rates of exchange determined by the Treasury Department, but in no event at a higher rate per unit than the free world market value of the currency purchased, and the amounts of any such purchases shall be covered into miscellaneous receipts of the Treasury."

Senate amendment No. 64: On page 27, after line 19, insert the following:

"DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH

"Department of Public Health, amounts equal to the cost of medical services ren-

85TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 7900

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

AUGUST 22, 1957

Read twice and referred to the Committee on Agriculture and Forestry

AN ACT

To permit the Secretary of Agriculture to sell to individuals land in Ottawa County, Michigan, which was acquired pursuant to the provisions of title III of the Bankhead-Jones Farm Tenant Act.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*
3 That (a) the Secretary of Agriculture may sell to individuals
4 such real property in Ottawa County, Michigan, as (1) was
5 acquired by him pursuant to the provisions of section 32 of
6 the Bankhead-Jones Farm Tenant Act (7 U. S. C. 1011),
7 (2) is being administered by him, and (3) he determines
8 is not needed for public purposes and is suitable for private
9 ownership.

1 (b) The Secretary of Agriculture shall sell real property
2 which is sold pursuant to the provisions of subsection (a)
3 to the highest responsible bidder but at not less than the fair
4 market price thereof as determined by him and in such parcels
5 and subject to such terms and conditions as he may prescribe.

Passed the House of Representatives August 21, 1957.

Attest: RALPH R. ROBERTS,

Clerk.

AN ACT

To permit the Secretary of Agriculture to sell to individuals land in Ottawa County, Michigan, which was acquired pursuant to the provisions of title III of the Bankhead-Jones Farm Tenant Act.

AUGUST 22, 1957

Read twice and referred to the Committee on
Agriculture and Forestry

Digest of CONGRESSIONAL PROCEEDINGS

OF INTEREST TO THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

OFFICE OF BUDGET AND FINANCE
(For Department Staff Only)

Issued
For actions of

August 29, 1957
August 28, 1957
85th-1st, No. 157

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HIGHLIGHTS: (See Page 6.)

SENATE

1. LAND-WATER RESOURCES. The Interior and Insular Affairs Committee and the Public Works Committee jointly reported with amendments S. Res. 148, to prescribe procedures and contents for reports to the Senate by executive agencies with respect to proposed projects for conservation and development of land and water resources (S. Rept. 1154). p. 14809
2. FARM PROGRAM. Sen. Martin, Iowa, defended the record of the Eisenhower administration in connection with the farm program and set forth accomplishments on this matter. pp. 14881-4
3. WOOL PROGRAM. Sen. Barrett and others explained the problems of the sheep industry and the Wool Act of 1954, and recommended extension of the Act at the next session of Congress. pp. 14867-81
4. BUDGETING. Sen. Ellender objected to procedures for the Budget Bureau to restrict appropriations to levels which will result in obligations below the intent of Congress at the time the appropriations were made. pp. 14849-50
Sen. Byrd inserted a letter from the Secretary of the Treasury explaining the narrow margin between the public debt and the statutory debt limit, and the Senator stated he would oppose increasing the limit except for "dire national

emergency." pp. 14864-5

5. GRAIN STANDARDS. Sen. Humphrey inserted an editorial recommending reappraisal of the possible USDA change from the bushel to the hundredweight as a unit of grain measure, and the Senator requested that CSS not adopt the new procedure without further study and consultation with the trading groups. p. 14843
6. RESEARCH. Sen. Thye spoke in favor of S. 2306, to carry out the recommendations of the Commission on Increased Use of Agricultural Products for Industrial Purposes. pp. 14821-2
7. FORESTRY. The Agriculture and Forestry Committee reported without amendment H. R. 7900, to permit USDA to sell to individuals land in Ottawa County, Mich., which was acquired pursuant to title III of the Bankhead-Jones Farm Tenant Act (S. Rept. 1155). p. 14809
This Committee reported without amendment H. R. 580, to authorize exchange with Missouri of certain lands in the Clark and Mark Twain National Forests (S. Rept. 1156). p. 14809
8. POULTRY. Sen. Cotton inserted a N. H. Poultry Growers Assn. resolution opposing "Government controls or interference in the poultry industry except in a research capacity." p. 14809
9. INTEREST RATES. Sen. Neuberger said increased interest rates have restricted the economy of lumber and sawmill towns in Oregon. p. 14817
Sen. Martin, Pa., stated that U. S. interest rates are lower than in most countries and that the world-wide increase in interest rates is the result of "cheap money." pp. 14820-1
10. CONSERVATION. Sen. Humphrey inserted a resolution by the Michigan United Conservation Clubs favoring S. 871, which provides for a conservation-study commission and Youth Conservation Corps. pp. 14843-4
11. PUBLIC WORKS Committee submitted its summary of activities, including amendments to the Lease-Purchase Act and approvals of projects under the Watershed Protection and Flood Prevention Act. pp. 14817-20
12. CIVIL RIGHTS. Continued debate on the compromise civil rights bill, H. R. 6127. pp. 14808, 14826-62, 14885-900

HOUSE

13. ACREAGE ALLOTMENTS. Concurred in the Senate amendments to H.R. 8030, to eliminate the requirement that notice of intent not to plant the full acreage allotment must be filed with the county committee in order for a farmer to receive credit for future acreage allotment purposes. The bill counts the acreage underplanted in 1956 if the committee was notified, does not count acreage released under surrender and reapportionment provisions, and applies the bill to all allotted crops. This bill will now be sent to the President. p. 14779
14. FOREIGN AID. Received the conference report on H.R. 9302, the 1958 mutual security appropriation bill (H. Rept. 1268). pp. 14799-800, 14806
15. PERSONNEL. Passed without amendment H.Con.Res. 175, to state a code of ethics for Government employees. p. 14785

SALE OF LAND IN OTTAWA COUNTY, MICH.

AUGUST 28, 1957.—Ordered to be printed

Mr. ELLENDER, from the Committee on Agriculture and Forestry,
submitted the following

REPORT

[To accompany H. R. 7900]

The Committee on Agriculture and Forestry, to whom was referred the bill (H. R. 7900) to permit the Secretary of Agriculture to sell to individuals land in Ottawa County, Mich., which was acquired pursuant to the provisions of title III of the Bankhead-Jones Farm Tenant Act, having considered the same, report thereon with a recommendation that it do pass without amendment.

This bill would authorize the sale of certain lands no longer needed by the Government. The sale would be made on a bid basis at not less than the fair market price. A fuller explanation of the bill is set out in the attached report of the House Committee on Agriculture.

[H. Rept. No. 1187, 85th Cong., 1st sess.]

The Committee on Agriculture, to whom was referred the bill (H. R. 7900) to permit the Secretary of Agriculture to sell to individuals land in Ottawa County, Mich., which was acquired pursuant to the provisions of title III of the Bankhead-Jones Farm Tenant Act, having considered the same, report favorably thereon with amendment and recommend that the bill do pass.

The amendment is as follows:

Page 2, beginning with line 3, strike out all the rest of subsection (b) and insert: "to the highest responsible bidder but at not less than the fair market price thereof as determined by him and in such parcels and subject to such terms and conditions as he may prescribe."

STATEMENT

The purpose of this bill is to authorize the Secretary to sell to the highest responsible bidder, but at not less than the fair market price,

that portion of approximately 6,200 acres of land in Ottawa County, Mich., now being administered by the Forest Service under title III of the Bankhead-Jones Farm Tenant Act which he considers suitable for private ownerships.

The land involved was part of the "submarginal land retirement program" carried on during the 1930's. The area lies close to the eastern shore of Lake Michigan in what was once a good wheat farming region, but the lands involved were covered with blowing sand from the lake shore and had been or were about to be abandoned when they were purchased by the Government for a very nominal amount.

In recent years, the lands have been under the supervision of the West Ottawa Soil Conservation District by virtue of a lease with that district and certain soil conservation and restorative measures—chiefly the planting of grass and trees—have been carried out.

Testimony at the hearing indicated that the land is now needed for rural residential purposes because of the expansion of population in the nearby cities of Grand Haven, Holland, and Grand Rapids. The lands still have relatively little agricultural value except for the growth of grass and trees, and it is anticipated that the Secretary of Agriculture, when he offers any of such lands for sale, will include in the conveyance such restriction as he can against use of the lands in such a way as to again subject them to the deteriorating forces which made them submarginal.

It is to be noted that there is nothing mandatory about the bill. The Secretary is authorized to sell such land "as he determines is not needed for public purposes and is suitable for private ownership."

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT

The committee amendment amends the language of subsection (b) to require that the lands which are sold be disposed of to the highest responsible bidder and in such parcels and subject to such terms as the Secretary may prescribe. The former language of the subsection would apparently have authorized a negotiated or private sale by the Secretary. The amendment also strikes out the sentence which would have required the Secretary to consult with the Ottawa County Board of Supervisors and the West Ottawa Soil Conservation District with respect to the terms and conditions under which the land is to be disposed of and then, presumably, to follow their recommendations in establishing such terms and conditions.

In striking out the language requiring such consultation, the committee does so not because it does not anticipate that the Secretary should and will consult with these agencies before disposing of the land, but because it seemed unwise to the committee to require such consultation as a condition precedent to any action by the Secretary.

DEPARTMENTAL POSITION

The committee has not received a formal report from the Department of Agriculture on this bill and a spokesman for the Department appearing at the hearing stated that he was not in a position at the moment to state the Department's policy position on the bill. He pointed out, however, that the Department of Agriculture has in both

the 83d and the 84th Congresses recommended and proposed the enactment of legislation establishing an overall policy for disposal of submarginal lands which would include authority for the Secretary to sell to private individuals those lands which were not needed for public purposes and which he deemed suitable for return to private ownership.



Calendar No. 1189

85TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 7900

[Report No. 1155]

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

AUGUST 22, 1957

Read twice and referred to the Committee on Agriculture and Forestry

AUGUST 28, 1957

Reported by Mr. ELLENDER, without amendment

AN ACT

To permit the Secretary of Agriculture to sell to individuals land in Ottawa County, Michigan, which was acquired pursuant to the provisions of title III of the Bankhead-Jones Farm Tenant Act.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*
3 That (a) the Secretary of Agriculture may sell to individuals
4 such real property in Ottawa County, Michigan, as (1) was
5 acquired by him pursuant to the provisions of section 32 of
6 the Bankhead-Jones Farm Tenant Act (7 U. S. C. 1011),
7 (2) is being administered by him, and (3) he determines
8 is not needed for public purposes and is suitable for private
9 ownership.

1 (b) The Secretary of Agriculture shall sell real property
 2 which is sold pursuant to the provisions of subsection (a)
 3 to the highest responsible bidder but at not less than the fair
 4 market price thereof as determined by him and in such parcels
 5 and subject to such terms and conditions as he may prescribe.

Passed the House of Representatives August 21, 1957.

Attest:

RALPH R. ROBERTS,

Clerk.

AN ACT

To permit the Secretary of Agriculture to sell to individuals land in Ottawa County, Michigan, which was acquired pursuant to the provisions of title III of the Bankhead-Jones Farm Tenant Act.

AUGUST 22, 1957

Read twice and referred to the Committee on Agriculture and Forestry

AUGUST 28, 1957

Reported without amendment

Digest of CONGRESSIONAL PROCEEDINGS

OF INTEREST TO THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

OFFICE OF BUDGET AND FINANCE
(For Department Staff Only)

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HIGHLIGHTS: House agreed to conference report on mutual security appropriation bill. Both Houses agreed to conference report on bill to extend Reorganization Act. Senate passed bills to require State contributions to Federal disaster relief and to adjust dates for claims in emergency feed program. Sen. Neuberger objected to Budget Bureau expenditure reductions.

HOUSE

1. MUTUAL SECURITY APPROPRIATION BILL, 1958. By a vote of 194-122, agreed to the conference report on this bill, H. R. 9302. This bill will now be sent to the President. pp. 15253-62
2. FARM PROGRAM. Rep. Christopher and others debated the farm program. pp. 15274-6
3. PERSONNEL. By a vote of 315 to 0, agreed to the conference report on S. 2377, to provide for production of statements and reports of witnesses in loyalty cases, etc. This bill will now be sent to the President. pp. 15248-53
4. INTERGOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS. Rep. Reuss inserted an appraisal of Federal-State-local relationships, by the American Municipal Association. pp. 15266-8
5. APPROPRIATIONS. Rep. Budge inserted a table showing Congressional action on appropriations for the 85th Congress, 1st Session. p. 15287
6. ADJOURNED sine die. p. 15290

SENATE

7. DISASTER RELIEF. Passed without amendment S. 304, to require State contributions in connection with Federal disaster relief programs. pp. 15186, 15216-17
8. BUDGET. Sen. Neuberger objected to Budget Bureau procedures intended to result in reducing expenditures below the appropriation level, and inserted letters from the Budget Bureau and others on the matter. pp. 15099-101
Sen. Byrd urged further reductions in expenditures. pp. 15204-5

9. BUILDINGS. Passed as reported S. 2533, to authorize GSA to lease space for Federal agencies for periods not exceeding 15 years. p. 15193
10. IMPORTS. Passed with amendments H. R. 7096, to amend the Tariff Act so as to permit duty-free importation of istle or Tampico fiber. Agreed to an amendment by Sen. Beall to permit duty-free importation of certain wool yarn. The House later concurred in the Senate amendments. This bill will now be sent to the President. pp. 15183-4, 15278
11. STATEHOOD. Received minority reports on S. 499 providing Alaska statehood, and S. 50, providing Hawaii statehood (S. Repts. 1163 and 1164, pt. 2). p. 15080
12. COTTON. Sen. Saltonstall said New England cotton textile mills are at a disadvantage, as compared with their competitors, because they must buy cotton at price-support levels. p. 15097
13. WATER RESOURCES. Sen. Johnson commended congressional actions for development of the Nation's water resources. p. 15112
Johnson
14. LEGISLATIVE ACCOMPLISHMENTS. Sens. /and Knowland summarized this year's congressional accomplishments. pp. 15112-51, 15246
15. TOBACCO. Sen. Cooper defended the tobacco price-support program. pp. 15160-5
16. COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS. Sen. Proxmire was assigned to the Small Business Committee, Banking and Currency Committee, and Post Office and Civil Service Committee. Sen. Monroney was excused from the Small Business Committee, Sen. Lausche from Banking and Currency, and Sen. Clark from Post Office and Civil Service. p. 15194
17. FORESTRY. Sen. Humphrey inserted and commended a recommendation by Rep. Blatnik for reforestation along the Federal highways. pp. 15209-10
Passed without amendment H. R. 7900, to permit USDA to sell land in Ottawa County, Mich., which was acquired pursuant to Title III of the Bankhead-Jones Farm Tenant Act. This bill will now be sent to the President. p. 15193
Passed without amendment H. R. 580, to authorize exchange with Missouri of certain land in the Clark and Mark Twain National Forests. This bill will now be sent to the President. p. 15197
18. REORGANIZATION. Both Houses agreed to the conference report on S. 1791, to extend the Reorganization Act of 1949 for two additional years, so as to apply to Presidential reorganization plans submitted before June 1, 1959. The final language of the bill also provides that a majority of those voting in either House (instead of a majority of the constituency of either House) may nullify a reorganization plan. This bill will now be sent to the President. pp. 15205, 15248
19. PERSONNEL. Sen. Humphrey recommended that the President sign the pay raise bills and inserted a Library of Congress analysis of pay raises for major officials in the last few years. pp. 15213-16
20. CCC CLAIMS. Passed with amendment H. R. 2486, to authorize CCC to grant relief with respect to claims arising out of certain deliveries of eligible surplus feed grains on ineligible dates in connection with purchase orders under its emergency feed program. The House later concurred in the amendment. This bill will now be sent to the President. pp. 15216, 15277, 15285-6

The amendment was ordered to be engrossed, and the bill to be read a third time.

The bill was read the third time, and passed.

CLARA M. BRIGGS

The Senate proceeded to consider the bill (H. R. 5719) for the relief of Clara M. Briggs, which had been reported from the Committee on the Judiciary with an amendment on page 2, line 3, after the word "act", to strike out "in excess of 10 percent thereof."

The amendment was agreed to.

The amendment was ordered to be engrossed, and the bill to be read a third time.

The bill was read the third time, and passed.

RAMON TAVAREZ

The Senate proceeded to consider the bill (H. R. 4335) for the relief of Ramon Tavaréz, which had been reported from the Committee on the Judiciary, with amendments, on page 1, line 5, after the word "of", to strike out "\$25,000" and insert "\$12,950", and on page 2, line 4, after the word "act", to strike out "in excess of 10 percent thereof."

The amendments were agreed to.

The amendments were ordered to be engrossed and the bill to be read a third time.

The bill was read the third time, and passed.

BILL PASSED OVER

The bill (H. R. 5822) to amend section 406 (b) of the Civil Aeronautics Act of 1938 with respect to the reinvestment by air carriers of the proceeds from the sale or other disposition of certain operating property and equipment was announced as next in order.

Mr. TALMADGE. Over.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The bill will be passed over.

Mr. LAUSCHE. Mr. President, a parliamentary inquiry.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator will state it.

Mr. LAUSCHE. What disposition has been made of Calendar 1178, H. R. 5822?

Mr. BIBLE. House bill 5822 has gone over by request.

LEASING OF SPACE FOR FEDERAL AGENCIES

The Senate proceeded to consider the bill (S. 2533) to amend the Federal Property and Administrative Services Act of 1949, to authorize the Administrator of General Services to lease space for Federal agencies for periods not exceeding 15 years, and for other purposes, which had been reported from the Committee on Government Operations, with amendments, on page 2, after line 7, to strike out:

(2) For the purposes of paragraph (1) of this subsection, the Administrator is authorized to acquire real property by purchase, condemnation, lease, donation, or otherwise, to improve (including demolition) federally owned property, and to dispose of such acquired and federally owned property

upon such terms as he may determine to be in the best interest of the United States.

In line 15, to change the subsection number from "(3)" to "(2)", and in line 25, to change the subsection number from "(4)" to "(3)", so as to make the bill read:

Be it enacted, etc., That section 210 of the Federal Property and Administrative Services Act of 1949, as amended (40 U. S. C. 490), is amended by adding at the end thereof the following new subsection:

"(h) (1) The Administrator is authorized to enter into lease agreements with any person, copartnership, corporation, or other public or private entity, which do not bind the Government for periods in excess of 15 years for each such lease agreement, on such terms as he deems to be in the interest of the United States and necessary for the accommodation of Federal agencies in buildings and improvements which are in existence or to be erected by the lessor for such purposes and to assign and reassign space therein to Federal agencies.

"(2) If the unexpired portion of any lease of space to the Government is determined by the Administrator to be surplus property and the property is thereafter disposed of by sublease by the Administrator, the Administrator is authorized, notwithstanding section 204 (a), to deposit rental received in the buildings management fund (40 U. S. C. 490 (f)) and defray from the fund any costs necessary to provide services to the Government's lessee and to pay the rent not otherwise provided for on the lease of the space to the Government.

"(3) Lease agreements in excess of 5 years entered into under paragraph (1) of this subsection shall not be subject to the 25 percent limitation of section 322 of the act of June 30, 1932 (47 Stat. 412, as amended (40 U. S. C. 278a)).

SEC. 2. The following laws are repealed: Act of March 2, 1913 (37 Stat. 718 (paragraph on leasing storage space)), as amended by section 6 of the act of June 14, 1946 (60 Stat. 258; 40 U. S. C. 36); section 407, act of June 16, 1949 (63 Stat. 199, as amended; 40 U. S. C. 37a); and the first sentence of amended section 3 of the act of August 27, 1935 (60 Stat. 257; 40 U. S. C. 304c).

Mr. ELLENDER. Mr. President, may we have an explanation of the bill?

The PRESIDING OFFICER. An explanation is requested.

Mr. TALMADGE. Mr. President, the bill is designed to expand the existing authority of the Administrator to procure space by lease for the accommodation of Federal agencies by authorizing execution of leases for such purposes in buildings or improvements which are in existence or to be erected by lessors for periods not in excess of 15 years.

Mr. ELLENDER. Are the buildings to be erected for that special purpose?

Mr. TALMADGE. I am sure that would be the intention. In order to get space in cities where space is not now available, a contractor or investor probably would be happy to invest money in a building if he thought he could lease space for 15 years and amortize the cost of the building, but he would not do so if he had to lease the space for a short term.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the committee amendments.

The amendments were agreed to.

The bill was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading, read the third time, and passed.

MR. AND MRS. CHARLES H. PAGE

The bill (H. R. 1315) for the relief of Mr. and Mrs. Charles H. Page, was considered, ordered to a third reading, read the third time, and passed.

G. H. LITTS

The bill (H. R. 4351) for the relief of G. H. Litts was considered, ordered to a third reading, read the third time, and passed.

MEASURES PASSED OVER

The joint resolution (S. J. Res. 80) proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States relative to equal rights for men and women was announced as next in order.

Mr. CLARK. Over, by request. This is not calendar business.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The joint resolution will be passed over.

The bill (H. R. 1804) for the relief of Robert B. Cooper was announced as next in order.

Mr. TALMADGE. Over.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The bill will be passed over.

The resolution (S. Res. 148) to prescribe procedures and contents for reports to the Senate by executive agencies with respect to proposed projects for conservation and development of land and water resources was announced as next in order.

Mr. PURTELL. Over, by request.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The resolution will be passed over.

SALE OF LAND IN OTTAWA COUNTY, MICH.

The bill (H. R. 7900) to permit the Secretary of Agriculture to sell to individuals land in Ottawa County, Mich., which was acquired pursuant to the provisions of title III of the Bankhead-Jones Farm Tenant Act was considered, ordered to a third reading, read the third time, and passed.

Mr. ELLENDER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent to have printed in the RECORD an explanation of the bill.

There being no objection, the statement was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

EXPLANATION OF H. R. 7900

This bill will authorize the Secretary of Agriculture to sell certain lands to the highest responsible bidder at not less than the fair market price. The lands concerned are approximately 6,200 acres of land in Ottawa County, Mich., which were acquired under the submarginal land retirement program during the 1930's. They were purchased by the Government for a very nominal amount. The land is now needed for rural residential purposes because of the expansion of population in the nearby cities of Grand Haven, Holland, and Grand Rapids.

There is nothing mandatory about the bill. The Secretary is authorized to sell such land "as he determines is not needed for public purposes and is suitable for private ownership."

ORDER OF BUSINESS

Mr. JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. President, I should like to inform all Mem-

bers of the Senate that at the conclusion of the calendar call some bills will be taken up by motion. I am anxious to accommodate each Senator, so if there is any particular bill that a Senator is interested in that he thinks we should consider before a sine die adjournment, I hope he will contact me, or Mr. Siegel, or some member of my staff who will be here at the table. We will attempt to arrange an orderly method for considering all the bills. I thank my colleagues.

COMMITTEE SERVICE

Mr. JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. President, while I have the floor, if my colleagues will permit me, I send to the desk an order and ask for its immediate consideration.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will state the order.

Mr. JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. President, I will say, for the benefit of my colleagues and the press, this is an order assigning committees to the newly elected Democratic Senator from Wisconsin [Mr. PROXMIRE].

The legislative clerk read as follows:

Ordered, That the Senator from Oklahoma [Mr. MONRONEY] is hereby excused from further duty with the Select Committee on Small Business, and the Senator from Wisconsin [Mr. PROXMIRE] is hereby assigned to service with such committee.

Ordered further, That the Senator from Ohio [Mr. LAUSCHE] is hereby excused from further service with the Committee on Banking and Currency, and the Senator from Wisconsin [Mr. PROXMIRE] is hereby assigned to service on such committee.

Ordered further, That the Senator from Pennsylvania [Mr. CLARK] is hereby excused from further service with the Committee on Post Office and Civil Service, and the Senator from Wisconsin [Mr. PROXMIRE] is hereby assigned to service with such committee.

Mr. JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. President, before action is taken on the order, I send to the desk and ask to have read 3 letters from 3 distinguished Senators, all of whom have the confidence and respect of their colleagues, but I should like to observe that I have never known 3 Senators to be more unselfish or more considerate of the problems of their leader.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The letters will be read.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

AUGUST 30, 1957.

HON. LYNDON B. JOHNSON,
United States Senate, Washington, D. C.

DEAR LYNDON: I have been informed that it will be necessary for existing committee assignments to be given up by Democratic Members of the Senate so that Senator PROXMIRE can receive the standing committee assignments to which he is entitled.

Accordingly, I tender herewith my resignation from the Committee on Banking and Currency so that this assignment may be available to the new Wisconsin Senator.

Sincerely,

FRANK J. LAUSCHE,
United States Senator.

AUGUST 30, 1957.

HON. LYNDON B. JOHNSON,
United States Senate, Washington, D. C.

DEAR LYNDON: I understand that under the rule governing the division of committee seats between the majority and the minority, it becomes necessary for existing Democratic Senators to give up committee posts

in order to furnish assignments to the new Senator from Wisconsin, BILL PROXMIRE.

Accordingly, I tender my resignation from the Committee on Post Office and Civil Service.

Sincerely,

JOSEPH S. CLARK,
United States Senator.

AUGUST 30, 1957.

HON. LYNDON B. JOHNSON,
United States Senate, Washington, D. C.

DEAR LYNDON: In order to provide an assignment for the new Senator from Wisconsin, Mr. PROXMIRE, I herewith tender my resignation from the Select Committee on Small Business.

Sincerely,

A. S. MIKE MONRONEY,
United States Senator.

Mr. JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. President, before action is taken, I should like to point out to my friends of the majority and the minority a provision of rule XXV, which appears on page 43 of the Standing Rules of the Senate. The Democratic majority in the Senate increased from 49 to 50. The Republican minority decreased from 47 to 46. But, according to this rule, the Democrats lost two committee seats. The rule provides that, if there are 49 in the majority and 47 in the minority, we would have 16 third-committee assignments; but if that number steps up to 50 in the majority, as it did in this case, and 46 in the minority, we would have only 14.

That is a quirk in the rules. I guess a few weeks ago someone would have said, "We won the battle and lost the war." We won the election and lost two committee seats. That is a little unusual. However, because of the unselfishness and because of the consideration demonstrated by the Senator from Ohio [Mr. LAUSCHE], the Senator from Oklahoma [Mr. MONRONEY], and the Senator from Pennsylvania [Mr. CLARK], we have been able to assign to our new colleague this morning, as a result of the unanimous action of the Democratic steering committee, of which I have the honor to be the chairman, with each member participating, a seat on three excellent committees.

I had hoped it might be possible to assign the distinguished Senator a place on the Committee on Agriculture and Forestry, because of his great interest in agriculture and because he comes from an important agricultural State. There is no vacancy on that committee at the present time. The Senator will be considered for any vacancies that may occur.

In the meantime, I shall ask the distinguished Senator from Louisiana [Mr. ELLENDER] to be constantly aware of the interest of the Senator from Wisconsin [Mr. PROXMIRE] in farm problems. I know the Senator is willing to utilize his constructive efforts in helping us solve the problems relating to agriculture.

Mr. President, may we have the order acted upon?

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection to the order presented by the Senator from Texas? Without objection, the order is entered.

Mr. MANSFIELD. Mr. President, will the Senator from Texas yield?

Mr. JOHNSON of Texas. I yield to the Senator from Montana.

Mr. MANSFIELD. Mr. President, I think this is another indication of a sense of responsibility not only on the part of the majority leader but on the part of the Democratic Members of the Senate.

Frankly, I am a little surprised; because, while riding to the Capitol with the Senator from Wisconsin [Mr. PROXMIRE] night before last from the airport, I was under the impression that he might be able, after a great deal of effort, to be seated on two committees. However, I come to the Chamber this afternoon and I find he has been given three excellent committee assignments.

I listened to the majority leader this morning talk about the accomplishments of this session of Congress. I should like to emphasize the fact that we shall be, when we adjourn later in the day, half way through the present Congress. I think the sense of responsibility which has marked the Democratic Party during the past 4 years and 8 months has been carried down to the present day and is in large part responsible for the fact that we have a Senator from Wisconsin for the first time in almost 30 years. I think the activities of this body under the leadership of the outstanding majority leader, the Senator from Texas [Mr. JOHNSON], have had their impact upon the people throughout the country.

For example, because of the policies carried out by all sections of the Democratic Party represented in this Chamber, a victory in Wisconsin occurred, and we hope in the future this trend will continue. This is nothing new. This trend has been in evidence since the beginning of 1953. I think it is a tribute to the majority leader, for the fine leadership he has displayed, for the sagacity he has demonstrated, and for the gift he has for bringing various elements of the Democratic Party together.

Of course we have our differences, but we can and do overcome those differences and alleviate them. Out of that process comes good legislation, as has been indicated in recent weeks.

Mr. President, I would hazard a guess that the number of bills which a Congress passes is not of importance. What is of importance is the quality of the measures which are reported, passed, and sent to the President.

I also point out that, on the basis of what has been said, the majority leader has indicated that at least half of the President's recommendations numbering on the order of 150, have been considered in the 1st session of the 85th Congress. Every recommendation of any merit which the President sends to Congress will receive the most serious consideration of this Democratic-controlled body. That has been the policy during the past 4 years and 8 months, and it will be the policy in the future.

Mr. President, I was surprised to read on the ticker tape this morning a statement by Secretary of Agriculture Benson, who evidently is the Republican's secret weapon, to the effect that his farm policies had no effect on the vote in Wisconsin. I think the Secretary is mistaken, because in my part of the country, to the west of Wisconsin, in the

Public Law 85-314
85th Congress, H. R. 7900
September 7, 1957

AN ACT

71 Stat. 633.

To permit the Secretary of Agriculture to sell to individuals land in Ottawa County, Michigan, which was acquired pursuant to the provisions of title III of the Bankhead-Jones Farm Tenant Act.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That (a) the Secretary of Agriculture may sell to individuals such real property in Ottawa County, Michigan, as (1) was acquired by him pursuant to the provisions of section 32 of the Bankhead-Jones Farm Tenant Act (7 U. S. C. 1011), (2) is being administered by him, and (3) he determines is not needed for public purposes and is suitable for private ownership. Ottawa County, Mich.
Sale of land.
50 Stat. 526.

(b) The Secretary of Agriculture shall sell real property which is sold pursuant to the provisions of subsection (a) to the highest responsible bidder but at not less than the fair market price thereof as determined by him and in such parcels and subject to such terms and conditions as he may prescribe.

Approved September 7, 1957.

